

WILL BE THERE.

GENERAL J. E. JOHNSON TO ATTEND THE SMITHFIELD CELEBRATION.

A Mystery Cleared Up--The North Carolina Bureau of Labor Statistics--The Late Frost.

(Special telegram to the Dispatch.)

RALEIGH, N. C., April 8.—Yesterday the committee in charge received a letter from General Joseph E. Johnson in which he stated that he would be at Smithfield May 10th, when the monument to the memory of the Confederate soldiers who fell at the battle of Bentonville will be unveiled. General Johnson says he will not be able to deliver an address, as requested, as his business engagements will not give him time to prepare a suitable address. Senator Vance will deliver the address.

For some days the death of J. H. Perkins, of Fremont, Wayne county, has been mysterious as to the cause. It has been found that he committed suicide.

A report from the Baptist Orphan Asylum is that fifty-six children are now present, and that in thirty days the number is to be increased to eighty.

Captain John A. Watson, a prominent citizen of Fayetteville, died last night.

A corps of surveyors is at work reducing the sharpness of curves and decreasing the grades on the Western North Carolina railway.

THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

This new bureau is meeting with gratifying success thus far in its collection of statistical information in regard to its department of public interests. The information is furnished readily in reply to inquiries by the bureau. Mr. Jones, the head of the bureau, is showing good judgment in the matter of details.

MINING INTERESTS.

A gentleman prominently connected with mining in this State said to-day that no department of progress was North Carolina moving so fast as in this. While there is no boom in the mines, there is a marked advance, and all the well-managed mines are doing well. There is nothing anomalous about the matter, either, and the handsome returns of a large proportion of the mines attract new capital all the while. Millions of New England and western capital are invested in all sorts of mines from Warren county to the Tennessee line.

NEWS NOTES.

Mr. Julian S. Carr, in some respects the most liberal man and cheerful giver in the State, has given \$10,000 toward the new endowment of Trinity College.

It is understood that the new Methodist church here, the largest in the State, is to be dedicated about the middle of May.

By the 1st of May 230 convicts will be at work on the Carthage railway, and its completion by October 1st is assured.

There came near being a serious hitch after all in the election on the graded-school question at Durham. The opponents of the measure fought it desperately. The town commissioners purged the registration-books after the election and threw out 183 names. This left the number of registered voters 765, and as 410 votes were cast for the school tax the majority of all the registered voters was 56. The commissioners had good precedents for their action.

Next month an ice-factory is to be built at Smithfield, making seven such factories in the State.

Reports from the Wilmington section say that much suffering less from the cold snags than did that in the Charleston and Savannah sections. This is good news. The damage to fruit in that particular locality is not so great as was feared, and not to compare with that inflicted in the Newbern and Goldsboro' sections.

Along the sides of the mountains in several of the western counties is what is known as the thermal belt, or line of frost. Along this belt, all reports state, not the slightest damage has been inflicted upon the peaches despite the cold weather.

A good deal of excellent work has been done at the State experiment farm, and it is now a very inviting place to visit. The farm is to be transferred from the Agricultural Department to the Agricultural and Mechanical College as soon as the latter is in operation. It is but a few hundred yards from the site of the college. In a segment of a circle, and in sight of one another, will be the insane asylum, penitentiary, agricultural college, State fair-grounds, and experiment station, while in front of them is the dead, dumb, and blind asylum. It will be a notable collection of buildings when the agricultural college is completed.

MILITARY.

If it be possible to arrange for an encampment of the State troops this summer, one will be held. The number of troops at this date is a trifle over 1,100.

Messrs. Primrose, Fries, and Dabney, who are making an extensive tour in search of information concerning agricultural and mechanical colleges, write that they are greatly pleased at what they have seen. They are now in the West. All are men of quick perceptions and with the deepest interest in the matters they have in hand. They will soon return and lay the results of their observations before the trustees of the college.

SELL SEVEN STORIES.

Two Painters Meet a Terrible and Sudden Death. (New York Times.)

When Peter F. Murray, a boss painter, and his assistant, Daniel Alford, both employed by J. B. & J. M. Cornell, the Centre-street iron manufacturers, went to work yesterday morning in the unfinished Aldrich building, at 41, 43, and 45 Broadway, they made what they believed to be a firm scaffold in the seventh story over the stair well. The men employed by the Cornells are bound by an agreement to take every precaution against accident.

The Cornells have the contract for the iron-work in this building, and it includes an iron staircase, following the wall walls from the first floor to the top. The open space under the sky-light is about fifteen by ten feet.

Across this gap Murray and Alford fixed a plank, and the aid of a step-ladder. They tested the temporary platform, and deciding that it was safe, began sandpapering the iron-work preparatory to painting it. At 8:15 o'clock, while shifting their positions, one of the men made a fatal slip. The plank turned, the step-ladder slipped, and the scaffolding collapsed so suddenly that neither could save himself. Both uttered shrieks which startled everybody in the building. In their descent down the well, sheer ninety feet, the unfortunate men made desperate efforts to seize something firm. They came in contact with the iron-work repeatedly, but their momentum made their efforts ineffectual.

Both struck the concrete floor. Employers rushed from all parts of the building and shuddered at the sight which met them. The blood and brains of both were spattered over the floor, and two heaps of torn clothing containing quivering flesh showed what had happened to the men. Both were disfigured almost beyond recognition. When they were raised and placed on stretchers their bones seemed to be broken in countless pieces. Murray's left arm was almost torn from its socket, showing that he had made a desperate attempt to stay his downward flight. There was no spark of life in either body after it struck the floor.

The accident caused much excite-

ment and attracted a great crowd to the building. The bodies were quickly removed to the Church-street station and subsequently claimed by relatives. Murray was forty-five years old, unmarried, and lived in One-Hundred-and-Tenth street. Alford was only twenty-one years old, and lived with his parents at 231 east One-Hundred-and-Ninth street. He had an uncle at work on the premises at the time of the accident.

SUICIDE WITH A TOY PISTOL.

A Youngster from Jersey City Kills Himself in Central Park. (New York Sun.)

At 2:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon a pistol was heard on the west side of the reservoir in Central Park, about opposite Eighty-second street. Park-Policeman Quinn found a boy, well dressed in dark-blue clothes, lying on the ground with a pistol-wound in his temple. By his side was a small single-barrel pistol such as children use to fire blank-cartridges. It had carried a ball-cartridge this time. The boy lived a couple of minutes after the ambulance had been summoned, but did not speak. In his pockets was found a card bearing the engraved name Oscar Fehrbiehn, with the address in ink 428 Grove street, Jersey City.

Oscar's father, John Fehrbiehn, is a well-to-do tailor of Jersey City and a property-owner. He was summoned to New York city by a telegram about 5 o'clock. Oscar's brother could conceive of no motive for the suicide. Oscar, it was said, that the Winifred Company has offered a bonus to the Norfolk and Western, and is to be paid when the road will be extended into the Coal-river country. The Winifred Company has been negotiating with the Kanawha and Ohio, thinking that road to cross the river at Winifred Junction and join them there. It is said that the Winifred Company has offered a bonus to the Norfolk and Western, and is to be paid when the road will be extended into the Coal-river country.

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